

DEC 31 '21

DEC 31 '21

©CLL 17413 THE UNFOLDMENT

James Osborne, a supreme egotist, gave positions on his newspaper to Katherine Nevin and her brother, Jack, when their father's death forced them to work. Osborne's chief lieutenant was Charles MacLaughlin, the city editor. "Mac" was hated and feared by his business associates and had no personal friends. His brother, Angus, was crippled of body and embittered of mind.

"Mac" was strongly attracted to Katherine, who accepted his mother's invitation to dine at their home. She became interested in Angus and tried to change his and Mac's atheistic views. Mac told Katherine that he loved her and that she must love him; that with or without her will he would have her. And, while she half feared him, she also found herself admiring the man whose ruthless force she dreaded.

Jack Nevin dug up a graft story. A man of the streets, mockingly known as the "Mayor of Avenue A," claimed he had been ruined by a publisher. Not knowing the publisher was his boss, Jack was ignorant of the motive behind his orders to "lay off" the story.

Jack loved Osborne's daughter Martha, the only tender influence in her father's selfish life. He idolized her and, furious when he overheard Jack making love to her, he ordered the boy from the house. ~~Starting~~ Martha started to intervene, but her father brushed her angrily aside. She lost her balance and fell headlong down the stairs. The doctors said she would never walk again. It is not the disease, but neglect of the remedy which generally destroys life. Because her case was considered hopeless, Martha was not permitted to even try to walk, and she became an invalid.

DEC 31 '21

At a coming election, Osborne was backing a candidate with a black record. He consulted with Mac, and they decided to have a motion picture made showing their candidate as unselfish and honest, fond of children and philanthropic. Katherine was assigned the job of writing and producing it.

The thought came to her that if she could picture a political reprobate as a soul of honor, she could make a picture portraying the virtues and faults of her friends. She made a film in which she mirrored her friends hoping, in showing themselves as others saw them, to lead them to higher ideals.

The picture, called "The Unfoldment," was finally finished and exhibited. Therein Osborne saw himself painted as black as in real life; Mac saw himself as a brute whose strength had crushed what was noble in him; Angus saw himself as wilfully blind to God's mercy.

Stunned by the revelation, Osborne went home, where he was confronted by the "Mayor of Avenue A," seeking a belated reckoning. He was about to kill Osborne when Martha walked into the room. The picture had inspired her to try to walk, and she found she could. As she entered the room, all recognized the presence of a miracle. Awe touched their hearts; hatred and vengeance departed. Osborne asked the Mayor's forgiveness and a chance to right his wrong; and he put Martha in the arms of Jack.

Mac won Katherine's heart when, instead of demanding her love, as previously, he humbly asked her mercy. In the MacLaughlin home another miracle had taken place, for Angus knelt beside his mother and prayed to the God he had ever doubted.

This document is from the Library of Congress  
“Motion Picture Copyright Descriptions Collection,  
1912-1977”

Collections Summary:

The Motion Picture Copyright Descriptions Collection, Class L and Class M, consists of forms, abstracts, plot summaries, dialogue and continuity scripts, press kits, publicity and other material, submitted for the purpose of enabling descriptive cataloging for motion picture photoplays registered with the United States Copyright Office under Class L and Class M from 1912-1977.

Class L Finding Aid:

<https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mbrsmi/eadmbrsmi.mi020004>

Class M Finding Aid:

<https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mbrsmi/eadmbrsmi.mi021002>



National Audio-Visual Conservation Center  
The Library of Congress